

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000
PUBLIC LAW 110-343
TITLE II PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM
USDA FOREST SERVICE

Name of Resource Advisory Committee: Olympic
Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official):
Funding Fiscal Year(s): 2014

2. Project Name: Olympic Peninsula Cooperative Noxious Weed Control (Jefferson and Clallam Counties)	3a. State: Washington 3b. County(s): Clallam and Jefferson Counties
4. Project Submitted By: Cathy Lucero on behalf of Clallam and Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Boards/Hood Canal and Pacific Ranger Districts	5. Date: 3/24/14
6. Contact Phone Number: (360) 417-2442	7. Contact E-mail: clucero@co.clallam.wa.us

8. Project Location:	
a. National Forest(s): Olympic	b. Forest Service Districts: Pacific and Hood Canal
c. Location (Township-Range-Section) <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 5px;"> <div>Township <u>25N</u> Range <u>02-04W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>26N</u> Range <u>02-04W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>27N</u> Range <u>02-05W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>27N</u> Range <u>09-13W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>28N</u> Range <u>02-05W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>28N</u> Range <u>09-13W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>29N</u> Range <u>02-05W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>29N</u> Range <u>10-13W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>30N</u> Range <u>06-13W</u> Section(s) _____</div> <div>Township <u>31N</u> Range <u>06-13W</u> Section(s) _____</div> </div>	

9. Project Goals and Objectives: The goal of this project is to stop the spread of noxious weed species, reduce existing populations, and prevent the introduction of additional exotic plants throughout Clallam and Jefferson Counties. The objective is to coordinate and standardize weed control efforts across many jurisdictional boundaries to more effectively minimize the negative impacts of noxious weeds on watershed functions, wildlife habitat, human and animal health, and recreational activities. This project enables the Forest Service to control noxious weeds as required under the Federal Noxious Weed Act. This is a continuation of work approved through previous projects (Project summaries highlighting annual achievements will be distributed to RAC members at meeting).
--

10. Project Description: a. Brief: Detect and treat noxious and invasive weed infestations on Forest Service lands, ensure neighboring properties with infestations do not degrade Forest Service natural resources, and deliver education and technical assistance regarding the impacts and control of noxious weeds to residents of both Jefferson and Clallam counties.

b. Detailed:

This project is a comprehensive program for noxious weed control on the north Olympic Peninsula performed in close collaboration with Forest Service staff. All control activities are part of a long term strategy for reducing invasive plant infestations in the Olympic National Forest (ONF). The project includes activities to identify and control noxious weeds, to coordinate actions and communication between local and Federal jurisdictions, and to raise public awareness of the impacts imposed by noxious weeds. This project will provide jobs to local residents. Effective noxious weed control requires long-term planning and sustained control efforts. Stable funding allows us to capitalize on the considerable progress made to date, and to foster interagency openness and cooperation which is central to Title II enabling legislation.

On Forest Service lands, the project will implement the Olympic National Forest's Invasive Weed Management (IWM) Program. The funding will support a 2-3 person crew for treatments of specific infestations identified in the prioritized annual work plan drafted by Forest Service staff. For some large sites we will coordinate and oversee treatments with local youth crews, Puget Sound Corps, Washington Conservation Corps, or the Sheriff's Chain Gang, as these resources are available. (Please see highlights of our 2013 report depicting just one example of multi-agency cooperation initiated by local weed boards). Members of these various crews are learning skills and gaining experience that may yield future employment in invasive plant control and salmon and habitat recovery efforts. Weed Board staff will provide technical support and leadership to volunteer groups as directed by the Forest Service or as requested, who are interested in participating in invasive plant control projects on ONF.

Projects identified for the annual work plan are based on survey and treatment outcomes from previous seasons. The annual work plan also includes specific preventative treatments in advance of timber sales, road upgrades or decommissioning, restoration projects and other ground disturbing activities that are likely to increase weed infestations. Emphasis will increasingly go to controlling invasive plants in gravel pits, both on and off Forest, but activities will continue to focus on roads, in campgrounds, and along trailheads, which, due to heavy use or off-site movement of potentially infested materials, serve as the primary vectors of new weed invasions into wilderness areas or between various land ownerships.

Additional activities will include continued educational outreach and monitoring previously identified sites, (with emphasis on areas where weeds have been controlled in previous years). The project will include monitoring and progress evaluation (See attached monitoring plan details.) Agency representatives will meet regularly to communicate progress and to revise project direction as necessary.

All sites and treatments will be documented and submitted to the Forest Service. This information is collated into a Forest Service national invasive plant database for treatment, inventory, and monitoring. A detailed report will be prepared and distributed at the end of the season. Most years, depending on funding levels, Weed Board crew treats over 100 projects areas encompassing several hundred acres and a couple hundred road miles. To date, we target 35 invasive plant species already found in the ONF. We are also working to prevent an additional 6 noxious weeds of high concern, found in neighboring county lands, from spreading onto the Forest. A summary of 2013 accomplishments will be provided to RAC members at the 2014 project discussion meeting. The complete 2013 report and those for prior years are available on our website at http://www.clallam.net/weedcontrol/html/forest_service.htm.

Clallam and Jefferson Weed Boards provide the vital link to private land owners whose weeds threaten federal lands. To fulfill this role, the project will support a part-time coordinator position in Jefferson County to achieve project outreach and county coordination goals. Educational outreach by Clallam and Jefferson County Weed Boards will increase public awareness of noxious weeds and the problems they create. Weed Board staff will direct programs at members of the community who work in the forest, live near it, or recreate or volunteer within it. Additionally, weed prevention signs and posters will be updated or revised as appropriate, and placed at public gathering points such as trailheads and campgrounds, libraries, or will be featured on Weed Board websites. Both Weed Boards serve as a local contact that can respond quickly

to reports of new weed sightings.

The project will also fund county weed control activities that complement Forest Service efforts to protect important natural resources by focusing on weed infestations on neighboring property, roads or quarries, all of which can serve as vectors for spreading weed populations from one area to another. Weed Boards will ensure that the most effective mix of treatments are employed and are in accordance with the Forest Service Regional/Local EIS and State/County guidelines for state land and county rights-of-way.

This program will also support quarry inspections at the request of contractor, private landowners, or Forest Service staff to help those preferred rock sources meet required Forest Service standards. Additionally we will begin to build information sources for weed free materials and best management practices with Community Development Departments within both counties.

As budgets have tightened across all public agencies, Title II funding has become an essential means of protecting past weed control efforts and are a down payment for preventing new invasive plants from gaining a foothold. Weed boards are deeply committed to long term invasive weed control projects by any entity within their respective counties. Weed Boards are therefore best positioned to understand local needs, respond promptly and effectively to new concerns, and provide vital follow-up treatments, especially where re-treatments within a single season are needed for effective control of certain species.

Our goal with this project is to assist with moving toward and maintaining healthy, sustainable forest ecosystems. After years of participating in Title II funded projects with the Forest Service, we are making considerable progress with several natural resource goals. Overall presence of noxious weeds has diminished. The Forest Service has implemented many prevention measures such as pre-disturbance surveys and treatments. At several special Botanical Areas, we are actively transitioning infested sites back to native vegetation. Title II funding has not only allowed the Noxious Weed Control Programs to develop a unique and creative relationship with our Forest Service partners but also to also draw in other natural resource managers and volunteer groups. Effective invasive plant control requires cooperation, diligence, and persistence and we have forged the working relationships that allow us to succeed. It has been a privilege and honor to work on this project and we hope you will approve funding to allow us to continue the good work into the future.

11. Types of Lands Involved? Private and public lands

State/Private/Other lands involved? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Land Status:

If Yes, specify: County weed boards will coordinate control efforts on private and public properties or other non-federal properties infested with invasive weed species that have potential to degrade or impact Forest Service land and natural resources.

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (Check at least 1)

☐ Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.

☒ Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.

☒ Restores and improves land health.

☐ Restores water quality

13. Project Type

a. Check all that apply: (check at least 1)

<input type="checkbox"/> Road Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Decommission/Obliteration	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Obliteration
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Productivity Improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Health Improvement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watershed Restoration & Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat Restoration
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish Habitat Restoration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Control of Noxious Weeds
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablish Native Species	<input type="checkbox"/> Fuels Management/Fire Prevention
<input type="checkbox"/> Implement CWPP Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Project Type (specify):
b. Primary Purpose (select only 1): Noxious and Invasive Weed Control	

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish
Miles of road maintained: 100 miles surveyed/invasive plants controlled. Included as part of acres weeds controlled. Typically, approximately 300 acres are treated for invasives in a season.
Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:
Number of structures maintained/improved:
Acres of soil productivity improved:
Miles of stream/river restored/improved:
Miles of fish habitat restored/improved:
Acres of native species reestablished:
Miles of trail maintained:
Miles of trial obliterated:
Acres of forest health improved (including fuels reduction): See acres of noxious weeds and invasive plants controlled.
Acres of rangeland improved:
Acres of wildlife habitat restored/improved: See acres of noxious weeds and invasive plants controlled.
Acres of noxious weeds controlled: 200 acres
Timber volume generated:
Jobs generated in full time equivalents (FTE) to nearest tenth. One FTE is 52 forty hour weeks: 1.6 plus 5 wks 9 man correctional crew.-
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention): 300
Direct economic activity benefit:
Other:

15. Estimated Project Start Date: 7/1/14	16. Estimated Project Completion Date: ongoing
---	---

17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.

Jefferson, Clallam, Mason, and Gray's Harbor County Weed Boards, Olympic National Park, Olympic National Forest, Clallam and Jefferson Conservation Districts, Washington State Departments of Agriculture, Fish and Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Transportation, Washington State University Extension and affiliated Master Gardeners, Cities of Port Townsend, Sequim, Port Angeles, and Forks, Back Country Horsemen, Rayonier Timber, Merrill and Ring, Green Crow Corp, North Olympic Salmon Coalition, Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha, Quileute, and Makah Tribes, Clallam County Streamkeepers, North Olympic Land Trust, North Olympic Salmon Coalition, Pacific Salmon Coalition, 10,000 Years Institute.

18. Identify benefits to communities.

This project will improve overall forest health and natural watershed functions while preserving multiple economic and recreational uses of the forest. By preventing the spread of weeds to neighboring landowners, economic use of private property is also preserved. Funding for this project translates directly into jobs for an economically depressed area. Additionally, this funding supports the Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board which provides technical, educational, and on-the-ground services to all residents in the county.

19. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources?

Noxious weeds negatively impact federal lands in many ways, such as impeding forest regeneration, degrading fish habitat, choking waterways, and replacing beneficial plants with non-palatable or poisonous species. By removing, controlling, and preventing noxious weed infestations, this project improves general watershed and forest health while preserving the aesthetic beauty, and the economic and recreational uses of the forest.

20. What is the Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment? (check at least 1)

<input type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreement
<input type="checkbox"/> Americorps	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YCC/WCC Crews
<input type="checkbox"/> Job Corps	<input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship Contract
<input type="checkbox"/> Merchantable Timber Pilot	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Olympic Correctional Crew, possibly Clallam County Sheriff's Chain Gang

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Materials? ☐ Yes ☒ No**22. Anticipated Project Costs**

a. Title II Funds Requested: **\$67,718-\$37,938** from Jefferson, **\$29,780** from Clallam

b. Is this a multi-year funding request? ☐ Yes ☒ No

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding:

Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board-\$5,150 in-kind; Clallam County Noxious Weed Board-\$28,474 in-kind; Forest Service \$8,000 in-kind.

24. Monitoring Plan (provide as attachment)

- a. Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above.

- b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring:
- c. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k):

25. Identify remedies for failure to comply with the terms of the agreement.

If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement:

- ☐ Unused funds will be returned to the RAC account.
- ☒ Other, please explain: If weed projects are not completed within a certain treatment window, we will extend the completion date until it can be done. If there are additional funds not expended at the end of the agreement, we will produce more treatment acreage until the funds are exhausted.

Project Recommended By:

/s/ (INSERT Signature)

Chairperson

Resource Advisory Committee

Project Approved By:

/s/ (INSERT Signature)

Forest Supervisor

National Forest

Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

Worksheet 1

Please submit this worksheet with your proposal

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys				
b. NEPA/CEQA				
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition				
e. Project Design & Engineering				
f. Contract/Grant Preparation	3,000			3,000
g. Contract/Grant Administration			300	300
h. Contract/Grant Cost-interagency				
i. Salaries	10,000	49,036	26,050	10,075
j. Materials & Supplies		3,000	500	3,500
k. Monitoring*		3,000		3,000
l. Other-(transport)		4,000	2,206	6,206
m. Project Sub-Total		59,036	29,056	96,093
n. Indirect Costs-County		8,682	4,568	13,249
Indirect Costs-Forest Service				
o. Total Cost Estimate	13,000	67,718	33,624	114,342

NOTES:

- a. Pre-NEPA Costs
- g. Includes Contracting/Grant Officer Representative (COR) costs. Excludes Contracting/Grant Officer costs.
- i. Cost of implementing project
- l. Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.
- n. Contracting/Grant Officer costs, if needed, are included as part of Indirect Costs.

*monitoring is part of the overall project and cannot be totally separated out. (Please see the attached monitor plan for details). At least one month of staff time is devoted to compiling and submitting Forest Service report forms, and preparing, publishing, and distributing the year-end report.

Olympic Peninsula Cooperative Noxious Weed Control Project Monitoring Plan

Monitoring and measuring progress of the Olympic Peninsula Cooperative Noxious Weed Control project is built into the program itself on several levels.

Before treatments begin, the Weed Boards and Forest Service prepare an extensive project plan outlining where the current season activities will occur. The document contains the Forest Service's highest priorities and includes treatment acres. During a spring meeting, all meet to understand specific goals for the year, how the work is to be documented, and discuss any new developments, needs, or items of special concern.

Seasonal field crew are trained and supervised by licensed Weed Board staff *at minimum* until they obtain a Washington State applicator's license. Field crews monitor previously treated areas, note the condition, and perform and document any necessary treatments on Forest Service monitoring forms. Consistent follow-up visits and treatments over several years are key to successful invasive plant control. Weed Board staff regularly submits reports (FACTS, NRIS, pit survey forms) and communicates with Forest Service staff about where and how much work has been accomplished. Often new sites or new priorities emerge during the season, and the field crew is able to respond quickly to Forest Service needs or adapt as actual conditions dictate. Forest Service staff periodically inspects treatment areas to make sure projects are on task.

At the end of each treatment season, Weed Board staff prepares an extensive combined Clallam/Jefferson report summarizing all activities, specifically on Forest Service lands. The report discusses the extent of the invasive plant problem and program effectiveness, along with some suggestions for improvements and future needs. Treatment information is used by the Forest Service to file compliance reports to meet ESA consultation requirements and to see whether the program is meeting the overall goals of the invasive plant program. A snapshot summarizing county weeds status, and provided services are also included in this report. A complete or executive summary copy of the report is distributed to all interested parties as well as local, state, and federal legislators. (A copy is supplied to members of the Resource Advisory Committee during the annual meeting to review program proposals). A copy of the full report is posted on our website. Weed Board and Forest Service staff meet late fall to debrief. Project finances are monitored and approved by Forest Service staff.